

ual:

Job description and person specification

Director of Architecture and Data



camberwell
college of arts

central
saint martins

chelsea
college of arts

london college
of communication

london college
of fashion

wimbledon
college of arts

Job description

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|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Job title | Director of Architecture and Data |
| College/Service | Digital and Technology |
| Department/Team | Digital & Technology |
| Accountable to | Chief Digital Officer |
| Contract | Permanent |
| Term | 37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year |
| Grade | Service Directors |
| Salary | Competitive |
| Location | Hybrid – UAL High Holborn/Home |
| HERA Reference | 002068 |

Purpose of the role

Digital & Technology provide a strategic and transformational University-wide approach to digital and technology, designing and delivering services to enable learning and teaching, research, innovation, with a focus on continuously improving the student and staff experiences.

Working to the Chief Digital Officer, the Director of Architecture and Data is pivotal in driving credibility with the business and in shaping the future technology landscape within Digital & Technology. The role holder will rely on their exceptional relationship skills to create business buy-in and bring together expertise from across the organisation to create a community that can deliver results in line with the strategic priorities. Comfortable with ambiguity, this role holder will provide insight, council, and direction to all Digital & Technology leadership.

The Director of Architecture and Data will develop and mature the architecture and integrations functions in its broadest sense, such as planning and designing technical strategy, alongside creating competitive advantage, faster execution aligned to strategies by understanding our core competencies. This role offers a unique opportunity to make a significant impact and change the way UAL operates.

The Director of Architecture and Data is a critical and central figure in the development of Digital & Technology, establishing and enhancing the foundations for an Architecture practice, engaging in the development and maintenance of applications, enabling innovative and efficient solutions, creation of roadmaps, plans, patterns, policies, process, procedures, standards, guidelines, and implementation patterns which guide strategy and

execution.

Working in partnership with Digital & Technology Directors and Head of Products & Services, this role will help transform the provision of digital and technology services to exceed the Universities' Digital and Data ambitions.

Key duties and responsibilities

Management:

- Provide strategic leadership for the Architecture and Data portfolio within Digital & Technology, aligning work and outputs to the University's strategy and goals.
- Provide strategic leadership for the design, delivery and operations of the Architecture and Data portfolio.
- Create, build and lead the Enterprise Architecture function, capable of supporting the architectural vision for the Organisation on a Group wide basis.
- Lead management activities for the function including building the capability demand and resource management, and line management.
- Establish a team of architects providing competent resources, tools and methodologies for the delivery of the Architecture function within the Digital & Technology Group.
- Raise awareness and understanding of the Architecture function to wider Digital & Technology to ensure full engagement and adherence with process.
- Define, implement, and evolve strong underpinning practices, guidelines, and frameworks that are required to continually improve the quality of technical solutions that are delivered.
- Establish the metrics and tools to assess capabilities and develop individuals associated with the practice.

Strategic:

- Develop and drive the University's technical strategy, ensuring it aligns with the overall business strategy and objectives.
- Arbitrate between business strategy and technical strategy ensuring that business requirements are properly evaluated and fit with existing architectures, or that architectures evolve to better accommodate the needs of the business.
- Oversee all architectural artefacts across both academic and administrative departments.
- Bring overriding thinking from wider technical arena into UAL to support the University's goals.
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with external organisations, including industry partners, government agencies, and other universities, to stay abreast of best practices and emerging trends.
- Provide strategic direction and leadership of the Architecture function.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues across the Digital and Technology Senior Leadership Team to deliver against the University's digital priorities and the continuous development of a high-performing Digital and Technology Group, ensuring effective ways of working across all teams to deliver against the strategy and drive change.

- Work with the CDO and other Directors in the Digital & Technology Group to deliver UAL's digital transformation.
- Advise the Chief Digital Officer on the strategic direction of and implications for our IT systems, digital technologies and staff capabilities against UAL strategic plans.
- Deputise for the CDO as required at university committees and other governance groups.

Enterprise Architecture:

- Develop and maintain the University's enterprise architecture ensuring it supports the delivery of reliable, efficient, and secure digital services.
- Collaborate with other Group Directors to ensure the architecture is aligned with appropriate governance, risk management, and compliance frameworks.
- Develop and maintain an inventory of current and future applications, systems, and infrastructure, ensuring they are aligned with the University's goals and objectives.
- Lead the development and implementation of architecture roadmaps and plans that support the University's digital strategy.
- Develop and maintain the optimal architectural roadmap that supports the business in delivering its aspirations.
- Drive and own the regular Governance Boards and associated processes to ensure that architectural governance is a consistent and transparent process and safeguards enterprise outcomes.
- Provide technical and analytical guidance to the Enterprise Architecture Team and integrate and translate complex concepts into tactical action plans.
- Design and gain sign off for the enterprise architecture concept, strategy and vision that enable the business to achieve specific aims, adapt and respond to current and future markets, service requirements and specific needs of our staff, students and other stakeholders.
- Lead analysis of technology industry and market trends to incorporate into long-term technology adoption practices, coordinate with next generation technologies to ensure enterprise architecture requirements meet future business aspirations.
- Analyse the current technical architecture sets to identify risk, opportunities for improvements and standardisation and enable flexible, agile, and scalable technology platforms and build standards for common technologies.
- Develop strategies to address use of UAL Data and its supporting capability building on existing capabilities across the University.

Leadership:

- Provide leadership and guidance to the technology strategy and Enterprise Architecture, ensuring they meet their goals and objectives.
- Develop and maintain a high-performance culture that encourages innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement.
- Provide leadership to the practice team influencing, developing, and mentoring individuals by demonstrating strong leadership skills to foster teamwork and support career growth.

Director of Architecture and Data - Job description

- Provide thought leadership and subject matter expertise managing internal and external relationships.
- Work directly with the CDO and wider Senior Leadership Team to advise on strategy, business alignment, enterprise architecture, information technology solutions, and the associated impact on the organisation and its stakeholders.
- Lead the development and implementation of Enterprise Architecture strategy, vision and guiding principles across the organisation and develop the EA capability and community.
- Communicate effectively with key stakeholders across the University, including academic and administrative departments, to ensure alignment and collaboration.
- Develop a people strategy encompassing attraction, recruitment, retention, and development for own Directorate and support similar initiatives across the Digital and Technology Group.

Budget:

- Develop annual budget and strategic investment portfolio for own Directorate and in partnership with the Digital and Technology Senior Leadership Team.
- Accountable for the use of funds for the delivery of the Group's Services, overseeing the forecasting of budgets and expenditure, and driving efficiency in short and long term.

Management responsibilities

Budgets: Delegated authority on budgets allocated to service delivery within remit of role, likely in excess of £750k.

Staff: Assigned staff across the Architecture and Data function at all levels.

Key working relationships

Managers and other staff, and external partners, suppliers and other stakeholders with whom regular contact is required.

- CDO
- D&T Senior Leadership Team
- Director of Strategy, Risk and Planning
- Other Executive Board and University Steering Group members (as appropriate)
- Heads of Product and Service within Digital & Technology
- Business partners – HR, Finance, Comms
- UAL strategic external relationship

General duties

These duties below are in addition to the key duties and responsibilities listed above:

- Perform duties and tasks consistent within the scope and grade of your role as reasonably may be expected and assigned to you from anywhere within the university.

- Undertake health and safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the role.
- Work in accordance with the University's Staff Charter and Dignity at Work Policy and anti-racism plans, promoting equality diversity and inclusion in your work.
- Undertake continuous personal and professional development, and to support it for any staff you manage through effective use of the University's Planning, Review and Appraisal (PRA) scheme and staff development opportunities.
- Make full use of all information and communication technologies to meet the requirements of the role and to promote organisational effectiveness.
- Conduct all financial matters associated with the role in accordance with the University's policies and procedures, as laid down in the Financial Regulations.
- Contribute to the UAL Climate Action Plan which sets out our principles, commitments and goals towards climate justice and our socio-environmental purpose.

Additional duties for senior appointments

- You may be required to work such additional/different hours as may from time to time be necessary for the proper and efficient discharge of duties which may include evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays.
- You may be required to regularly travel to other sites and internationally as necessary.

Person specification

This section provides a list of essential criteria (and desirable criteria if specified) that you will need to demonstrate you meet as part of the recruitment process.

Experience, knowledge and qualifications

- Educated to degree level or with a relevant professional qualification, or equivalent in job experience.
- In-depth knowledge of good practice service management standards.
- Good knowledge of components of a holistic EA and of translating business needs into EA requirements.
- Good knowledge of current industry trends.
- Extensive experience of working in an IT delivery senior management role with significant experience in delivering operational services.
- Strong understanding of the technical components in application delivery and support.
- Extensive experience of defining and agreeing support models and service level agreements with customers.
- Extensive experience of adapting services to meet customer's needs and identifying ways of improving standards.
- Significant experience of successful contract negotiation with the ability to identify relevant detail and be focused on the overarching objectives.
- Experience of working as an enterprise architect.
- Experience of all domains of Architecture – Business, Data, Application, Technology and Security.
- Experience across network management, middleware design and information analysis.
- Experience of business analysis or business strategic planning.
- Experience of working with external suppliers and agencies.
- Experience of working in the HE sectors.

Communication skills

- Communicates persuasively and with gravitas adapting the style and message to a diverse internal or external audience in an inclusive and accessible way.
- Good understanding of current technologies and able to articulate them in a non-technical way.

Leadership and management

- Motivates and leads effectively, setting the strategic direction and promoting collaboration across formal boundaries.

Professional practice

- Contributes to advancing professional practice/research or scholarly activity in own area of specialism including external networks and conferences.

Planning and managing resources

- Effectively plans, prioritises and manages the delivery of complex projects or activities to achieve long term strategic objectives.

Teamwork

- Contributes effectively to a senior leadership team, setting the strategic direction for one or more function and fosters constructive relationships across the organisation.

Student experience or customer service

- Provides effective strategic leadership for enhancing the student or customer experience to promote an inclusive environment for students, colleagues or customers.

Creativity, innovation and problem-solving

- Identifies innovative solutions to problems to bring a wider benefit to the organisation.